



State of Tennessee
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Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**GOVERNOR BEN W. HOOPER
(1870-1957)
PAPERS**

GP 36

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INTRODUCTION

This finding aid covers the gubernatorial papers of Tennessee Governor Ben W. Hooper, who served from 1911-1915. It consists of correspondence, special subjects, applications, petitions for pardon, and other miscellaneous materials.

There are no restrictions on the use of the materials and researchers may make copies of individual items for individual or scholarly use.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Ben Walter Hooper

(Republican)

Born in Newport in 1870, Hooper was orphaned early. He read law and opened a practice in 1894, served in the legislature and as captain of the 6th U. S. Volunteers in the Spanish-American War before being elected governor in 1910. Prohibition had split the Democratic party, and Hooper's election was helped by those "Independent Democrats" who also endorsed him. His was a turbulent administration, with political feeling so high that armed guards were required in the legislature. Even so, Hooper's term saw child labor laws passed, compulsory school laws and a change in the death penalty law to provide for electrocution. Hooper continued in public service until near the time of his death in 1957.

Source: *Tennessee Blue Book*, 1999-2000, p. 480.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

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1. Correspondence – Governor Ben W. Hooper
February 8 – June 26 1911
2. Correspondence – Governor Ben W. Hooper
July 8 – December 28 1911
3. Correspondence – Governor Ben W. Hooper
January 2 – June 29 1912
4. Correspondence – Governor Ben W. Hooper
July 8 – December 24 1912
5. Correspondence – Governor Ben W. Hooper
January 2 – May 20 1913
6. Correspondence – Governor Ben W. Hooper
July 7 – December 31 1913
7. Correspondence – Governor Ben W. Hooper
January 13 – December 29 1914
8. Correspondence – Governor Ben W. Hooper
January 7 – January 15 1915

Box 2

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| 2. Correspondence General – Bailey-Blodgett | 1912 |
| 3. Correspondence General – Bobbs-Byars | 1912 |
| 4. Correspondence General – Calhoun-Cleveland | 1912 |
| 5. Correspondence General – Clifton-Cunningham | 1912 |
| 6. Correspondence General – Dahn-Dwyer | 1912 |
| 7. Correspondence General – Easley-Fuller | 1912 |
| 8. Correspondence General – Gallagher-Gupton | 1912 |
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| 10. Correspondence General – Jackson-Kumler | 1912 |

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| 3. Correspondence General – Page-Quinn | 1912 |
| 4. Correspondence General – Ralston-Skinner | 1912 |
| 5. Correspondence General – Shepard-Swanner | 1912 |
| 6. Correspondence General – Tanner-Vaughn | 1912 |
| 7. Correspondence General – Wadley-Yoakam | 1912 |

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| 3. Correspondence General – Fitzpatrick-Hunter | 1913 |
| 4. Correspondence General – Jackson-Myers | 1913 |
| 5. Correspondence General – Nave-Stratton | 1913 |
| 6. Correspondence General – Tarwater-Zook | 1913 |

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| 3. Correspondence General – Blankenship-Towns | 1915 |
| 4. Miscellaneous Correspondence – Akers-Witt | 1911 |
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| 6. Miscellaneous Correspondence – Anderson-Thompson | 1913 |
| 7. Miscellaneous Correspondence – Austin-Thomason | 1914 |
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2. Correspondence Re: State Board of Health 1912
3. Correspondence Re: Marriage and Divorce Law's in the different states 1912

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3. Special Subject – Governor Hooper's message to the 58th General Assembly Re: Law enforcement 1913
4. Special Subject – Governor Hooper's message to the 59th General Assembly 1915
5. Special Subject – Message by Governor Hooper to the House of Representatives Re: a quorum 1913
6. Special Subject – Message by Governor Hooper Re: San Francisco exposition 1913
7. Special Subject – Message by the Governor Re: Text Book Commission and General Rye
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9. Special Subject Re: Political Speech by Governor Hooper 1914

Box 10

1. Special Subject – Message by Governor Hooper Re: Political problems of a free American Commonwealth 1914
2. Special Subject – Message by Governor Hooper to the 58th General Assembly Re: Anti Pass Law 1913
3. Special Subject – Message by Governor Hooper to the House of Representatives and Senate Re: General Appropriation Bill 1913
4. Special Subject – Message by Governor Hooper to the Legislature Re: Bond issue
5. Special Subject – Message by Governor Hooper Re: State Bonds
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8. Special Subject – Message by Governor Hooper Re: Election Commission 1912

9. Special Subject – Message by Governor Hooper
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10. Special Subject – Message by Governor Hooper to the
58th General Assembly Re: Funding Board 1913

Box 11

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Box 12

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2. Proclamation 1911-1913
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Box 13

1. Applications for Chancellor of the 12th Chancery Division 1911
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3. Applications for membership of State Board of Education 1912-1913
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6. Applications for position as Secretary of the
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State Board of Medical Examiners 1912
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2. Applications for Requisition – Bid-Well 1912
3. Applications for Requisition – Ale-Con 1914
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| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Bai-Byr | 1911 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Car-Cur | 1911 |
| 4. Petitions for Pardon – Dav-Dun | 1911 |

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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Eig-Ewi | 1911 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Fer-Fit | 1911 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Fle-Ful | 1911 |
| 4. Petitions for Pardon – Gab-Gen | 1911 |
| 5. Petitions for Pardon – Hai-Hun | 1911 |

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Jac-Jum | 1911 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Kei-Kra | 1911 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Laf-Lyt | 1911 |
| 4. Petitions for Pardon – Mar-Mur | 1911 |

Box 19

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Nel-Ove | 1911 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Pam-Prn | 1911 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Ram-Rya | 1911 |
| 4. Petitions for Pardon – San-Sin | 1911 |

Box 20

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Smi-Swa | 1911 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Tay-Tur | 1911 |
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| 4. Petitions for Pardon – Wad-Wel | 1911 |
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Box 21

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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Ada-Bro | 1912 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Cam-Cur | 1912 |
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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Far-Goo | 1912 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Hac-Irw | 1912 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Jac-Lus | 1912 |

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|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Law-McMan | 1912 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Mea-Moz | 1912 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Nas-Pri | 1912 |
| 4. Petitions for Pardon – Ray-Ros | 1912 |

Box 24

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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Sca-She | 1912 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Sim-Tur | 1912 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Wad-You | 1912 |

Box 25

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Abl-Bis | 1913 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Bla-Byr | 1913 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Cam-Cof | 1913 |
| 4. Petitions for Pardon – Col-Cun | 1913 |

Box 26

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Dan-Dun | 1913 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Eas-Fre | 1913 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Gai-Gri | 1913 |

Box 27

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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Had-Ham | 1913 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Har-Hud | 1913 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Jac-Kno | 1913 |

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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Law-McLai | 1913 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Mee-Mye | 1913 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Nel-Owe | 1913 |

Box 29

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Par-Ram | 1913 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Ran-Rus | 1913 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Sam-Swe | 1913 |

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Tal-Tuc | 1913 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Vic-Wes | 1913 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Whi-Wri | 1913 |

Box 31

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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Ada-Ave | 1914 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Bak-Bli | 1914 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Bog-But | 1914 |

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Cah-Can | 1914 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Cha-Col | 1914 |
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Box 33

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Dar-Dic | 1914 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Doc-Dye | 1914 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Edw-Fis | 1914 |

Box 34

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|-----------------------------------|------|
| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Flo-Fur | 1914 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Gai-Gor | 1914 |
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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Hac-Hay | 1914 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Hen-How | 1914 |
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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Ica-Isa | 1914 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Jac-Joy | 1914 |
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| 4. Petitions for Pardon – Lam-Lyn | 1914 |

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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Mal-McSpa | 1914 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Mee-Mul | 1914 |
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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Par-Qua | 1914 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Ram-Ruo | 1914 |
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Box 39

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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Tal-Tay | 1914 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Tem-Tyl | 1914 |
| 3. Petitions for Pardon – Ups-Voi | 1914 |

Box 40

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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Wal-Wes | 1914 |
| 2. Petitions for Pardon – Whi-Wil | 1914 |
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Box 41

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| 1. Petitions for Pardon – Bea-Fil | 1915 |
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| 4. Index to Pardons | 1911-1915 |

NAME INDEX

This index contains names of persons holding influential positions during the period. In some instances, however, correspondence is included because the content is important enough to warrant attention in the index. The figures in the parentheses immediately following each name denote the total number of letters in the folder from that person. The identification of the writer and the site from where the letters were written are included whenever possible.

Box 2, Folder 1, 1910

T. H. Baker (1) Deputy, Collector, Treasury Department, Memphis, Tennessee.

Box 2, Folder 2, 1911

J. H. Acklen (4) State Warden, Game, Fish & Forestry, Nashville.

Geo. H. Ashley (1) State Geologist, Nashville.

Hon. R. W. Austin (1) U.S. Congressman, Washington D.C.

Brown Ayers (6) President, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Box 2, Folder 3, 1911

T. H. Baker (2) Deputy Collector, Treasury Department, Memphis, Tennessee.

Box 2, Folder 4, 1911

E. S. Beck (1) Managing Editor, The Chicago Tribune, Chicago, Illinois.

Hon. John C. Black (3) President, United States Civil Service Commission,
Washington D.C.

Hon. Frank Boyd (1) Senator, State of Tennessee.

Prof. J. W. Brister (5) Superintendent, Department of Public Instruction, Nashville.

Hon. Js. M. Brown (1) Governor, State of Georgia.

J. B. Brown (3) Superintendent, Hamilton County Schools, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Hon. T. B. Brown (2) Senator, State of Tennessee.

Box 2, Folder 5, 1911

Edmund C. Burnett (2) Professor, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Department of
Historical Research, Washington, D.C.

Geo. J. Burnett (2) President Tennessee College, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Box 2, Folder 6, 1911

C. C. Calhoun (5) Special Agent and Attorney for the State of Tennessee, Washington,
D.C.

H. N. Cate (3) Attorney and Counselor, Newport, Tennessee.

P. P. Claxton (1) Professor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

W. M. Clemens (4) General Manager and Managing Editor, The News Scimitar,
Memphis, Tennessee.

Box 2, Folder 7, 1911

Hon. Austin L. Crothers (2) Governor, State of Maryland.

Box, 2 Folder 8, 1911

Hon. C. S. Denson (1) Governor, State of Illinois.

Hon. J. M. Dickinson (3) Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.

W. T. Dubose (1) Editor and Manager, *The Firing Line*, Atlanta, Georgia.

Box 3, Folder 1, 1911

Hon. Sam Edwards (1) County Judge, Cookeville, Tennessee.

J. I. Finney (1) Editor, *The Columbia Herald*, Columbia, Tennessee.

Sidney G. Gilbreath (1) President State Normal School, Johnson City, Tennessee.

John J. Gore (3) Attorney, Gainesboro, Tennessee.

Box 3, Folder 2, 1911

William J. Hale (1) President, Tennessee Agriculture and Industrial State Normal School, Nashville.

W. R. Hamilton (1) Superintendent, Tennessee Anti-Saloon League, Nashville.

Col. C. H. Harvey (1) President, Knoxville Railway and Light Company, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Charles D. Hilles (1) Secretary to President Taft.

Mrs. Selena Moore Holman (3) President, Tennessee Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Fayetteville, Tennessee.

W. H. Hughey (2) Attorney, Memphis, Tennessee.

Box 3, Folder 3, 1911

M. D. Jefferies (1) President, Carson and Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn.

Ira Landrith (2) President, Belmont College for Young Women, Nashville, Tenn.

Box 3, Folder 4, 1911

W. B. Miller (2) Attorney, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

E. E. Miller (1) Managing Editor, *The Progressive Farmer*, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Box 3, Folder 5, 1911

L. W. Page (2) President, American Association for Highway Improvement, Washington, D. C.

Hon. S. J. Parks (1) Senator of Tennessee, Nashville.

T. F. Peck (1) Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Nashville.

Hal Peoples (1) Professor, Battle Ground Academy, Franklin, Tennessee.

Charles W. Rankin (2) Attorney, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

J. W. Ross (2) Attorney, Savannah, Tennessee.

Box 3, Folder 6, 1911

Hon. Sam R. Sells (3) U. S. Congressman, Washington, D. C.
R. A. Shiftlett (1) Chief Mine Inspector, Nashville.
Herman Suter (1) Publisher, Nashville *Tennessean*, and The Nashville *American*.
T. C. Thompson (1) Mayor, City of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Box 3, Folder 7, 1911

Hon. Augustus E. Wilson (1) Governor, State of Kentucky.
T. A. Wright (2) Attorney, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Box 4, Folder 1, 1912

Joseph A. Acklen (2) State Warden, State of Tennessee. Department of Game, Fish and Forestry, Nashville.
Geo. H. Armistead (1) Editor and Publisher, *The Review-Appeal*, Franklin, Tennessee.
Brown Ayers (8) President, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Box 4, Folder 2, 1912

J. H. Bayer (1) Superintendent, Industrial and Training School, Huntingdon, Tennessee.
Geo. L. Berry (1) President, International Printing Pressman and Assistant's Union, Rogersville. Tennessee.

Box 4, Folder 3, 1912

Hon. W. S. Brantley (1) U. S. Congressman, Committee on ways and Means, Washington, D. C.
J. W. Brister (7) Department of Public Instruction, State of Tennessee, Nashville.
J. B. Brown (1) Superintendent, Hamilton County Schools, Chattanooga, Tennessee.
Hon. Joseph M. Brown (1) Governor, State of Georgia.

Box 4, Folder 4, 1912

B. G. Carroll (1) Governor, State of Iowa.
Charles T. Cates, Jr. (1) Attorney-General, State of Tennessee, Knoxville.
Hon. W. E. Chilton (1) U. S. Senator, Washington D. C.

Box 4, Folder 5, 1912

Hon. O. B. Colquitt (4) Governor, State of Texas.
Hon. Jas. B. Cox (1) United States Attorney, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Box 4, Folder 6, 1912

F. K. Deffry (2) Cap. Company A, First Regiment Infantry, National Guard, State of Tennessee, Memphis.
W. T. Dowdall (2) Attorney, Memphis, Tennessee.
W. A. Dunlap (1) Collector of Internal Revenue, Treasury Department, Nashville, Tenn.

Box 4, Folder 7, 1912

Hon. Eugene N. Foss (1) Governor, State of Massachusetts.

W. A. Frisbie (1) Editor, *The Daily News*, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Box 4, Folder 8, 1912

George A. Gates (1) President, Fisk University, Nashville.

Sidney G. Gilbreath (1) President, East Tennessee State Normal School, Johnson City, Tennessee.

John J. Gore (2) Attorney, Gainesboro, Tennessee.

Geo. W. Gorrell (1) Attorney, Newport, Tennessee.

Hon. P. L. Goldsborough (1) Governor of Maryland.

Box 4, Folder 9, 1912

William J. Hale (2) President, Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State Normal School, Nashville.

Dr. Geo. A. Hubbell (2) President, Lincoln Memorial University, Cumberland Gap, Tenn.

Box 4, Folder 10, 1912

R. L. Jones (1) President, Middle Tennessee State Normal School, Murfreesboro.

Prof. J. J. Keyes (2) Superintendent, City Public Schools, Nashville.

W. C. Kilvington (1) Superintendent, Tennessee Industrial School.

Dr. Kno. A. Kumler (1) President, Walden University, Nashville, Tennessee.

Box 5, Folder 1, 1912

Col. Ira Landrith (1) President, Belmont College for Young Women, Nashville, Tenn.

Dr. Joe F. Lane (1) President, Lane College, Jackson, Tennessee.

Box 5, Folder 2, 1912

Hon. William Hodges Mann (1) Governor, State of Virginia.

Ralph W. McGranahan (3) President, Knoxville College, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Dr. Chas P. McNabb (2) Dean, Lincoln Memorial University, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Seymour A. Mynders (2) President, West Tennessee State Normal School, Memphis, Tennessee.

Dr. B. T. Nolen (1) Chairman, Williamson County Board of Health, Franklin, Tenn.

Box 5, Folder 3, 1912

R. B. Peoples (3) Principal, Peoples School, Battle Ground Academy, Franklin, Tenn.

W. R. Phillips (1) President, Farmers Union College, Halls, Tennessee.

Joseph Hyde Pratt (5) President, Appalachian Good Roads Association, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

A. H. Purdue (1) State Geologist, Nashville, Tennessee.

Box 5, Folder 4, 1912

S. L. Smith (1) Superintendent, City Board of Education, Clarksville, Tennessee.
Hon. Jared Y. Sanders (1) Governor, State of Louisiana.

Box 5, Folder 5, 1912

S. H. Thompson (3) Executive Chairman, Tennessee State Board of Education, Athens, Tennessee.

Box 5, Folder 6, 1912

Prof. William J. Wilkinson (1) Dean, Washington College, Tennessee.
L. E. Wolfe (1) Superintendent, Board of Education, Memphis, Tennessee.

Box 6, Folder 1, 1913

Hon. A. J. Argo (2) Senator of Tennessee, Nashville.
Brown Ayers (1) President, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
Prof. J. M. Burnett (3) President Carson & Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn.
George J. Burnett (1) President, Tennessee College, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Box 6, Folder 2, 1913

M. W. Connolly (1) Editor, The News *Scimitar*, Memphis, Tennessee.

Box 6, Folder 3, 1913

A. J. Fitzpatrick (1) Senator of Tennessee, Nashville.
William J. Hale (1) President, Tennessee Agriculture and Industrial State Normal School, Nashville.
Hon. L. E. Hall (1) Governor, State of Louisiana.
Hon. Cordell Hull (1) U. S. Congressman, Washington, D. C.

Box 6, Folder 4, 1913

C. B. Johnson (1) Publisher, The Knoxville *Sentinel*, Knoxville, Tennessee.
R. L. Jones (1) President, Middle Tennessee State Normal School, Murfreesboro.
J. J. Keyes (2) Superintendent, City Public Schools, Nashville.
W. C. Kilvington (1) Superintendent, Tennessee Industrial School, Nashville.
Ed. R. Kone (1) Commissioner of Agriculture, Austin, Texas.
J. T. Lane (1) President, Lane College, Jackson, Tennessee.
Hon. Ernest Lester (1) Governor, State of Washington.
William Hodges Mann (1) Governor, State of Virginia.
Hon. James B. McCreary (1) Governor, State of Kentucky.
O. L. McMahan (2) Superintendent, Board of Education, Newport, Tennessee.
G. F. Milton (2) President, The Chattanooga *News*, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Box 6, Folder 5, 1913

J. H. Patterson (1) President, Middle Tennessee Educational Association, Nashville, Tennessee.
Bruce R. Payne (1) President, George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn.
T. R. Preston (1) President, Hamilton National Bank, Chattanooga, Tennessee.
Hon. Sam R. Sells (2) U. S. Congressman, Washington, D. C.
W. W. Shields (1) Editor and Publisher, *The Dayton Star*, Dayton, Tennessee.
Robert B. Stansell (1) Dean, The Athens School, Athens, Tennessee.
S. W. Stratton (1) Director, Department of Commerce and Labor, Washington, D. C.

Box 6, Folder 6, 1913

S. W. Thompson (2) Executive Chairman, Tennessee State Board of Education, Athens, Tennessee.

Box 7, Folder 1, 1914

A. H. Askew (1) Senator of Tennessee, Nashville.
Brown Ayers (1) President, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
Geo. M. Clark (2) State Auditor, Department of State Auditor, Nashville.
Sidney G. Galbreath (1) President, East Tennessee State Normal School, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Box 7, Folder 2, 1914

R. L. Jones (1) President, Middle Tennessee State Normal School, Murfreesboro.
R. Q. Lillard (3) Secretary & Executive Officer, Nashville, Tennessee.
C. C. Menzler (4) General Secretary, Tennessee Board of State Charities, Chattanooga, Tennessee.
Hon. W. C. Redfield (1) Secretary, Department of Commerce, Washington D. C.
Samuel H. Thompson (1) Superintendent, Department of Public Instruction, Nashville.

Box 7, Folder 3, 1915

Hon. Sam R. Sells (1) U. S. Congressman, Washington D. C.